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Seed and Plant Introduction and Distribution,

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PERENNIAL RYE-GRASS (*Lolium perenne*).

This grass is also known under the name of English rye-grass. It is a short-lived perennial, lasting under favorable circumstances from five to seven years, but in upland situations it begins to disappear at the end of two years. On this account it is of very little use in permanent pastures or meadows. It is stoloniferous to some extent, growing in broad tufts, and when seeded heavily it will form a compact turf. It is a native of Europe and has been cultivated in England for two hundred and forty years.

In the United States its use will probably be restricted to short rotations, and then better grasses may be found for nearly all situations except wet clay soils. It will grow under a wide range of temperature conditions, but prefers a cool climate. On dry upland soils the yield is small and the life period short. In the Pacific-coast region, on land too wet for other crops, it will stand grazing well and will furnish a great abundance of succulent forage.

Culture.—This grass is propagated entirely by seed, which can be purchased from most seedsmen for about 8 cents a pound. The seed weighs from 14 to 28 pounds per bushel, varying with the degree of freedom from chaff. Two bushels per acre should be sown without a nurse crop, usually in September or October. Perennial rye-grass has been recommended for use on land intended to remain only two or three years in grass. With this in view, when sown at the rate of 1 bushel to the acre, with 12 pounds of red clover, or 2 bushels of rye-grass and 6 pounds of red clover, on deep, rich ground, good crops are produced, but when it is intended to leave the land only one year in grass the Italian rye-grass is greatly to be preferred.



